



MPO/RPA Quarterly Meeting

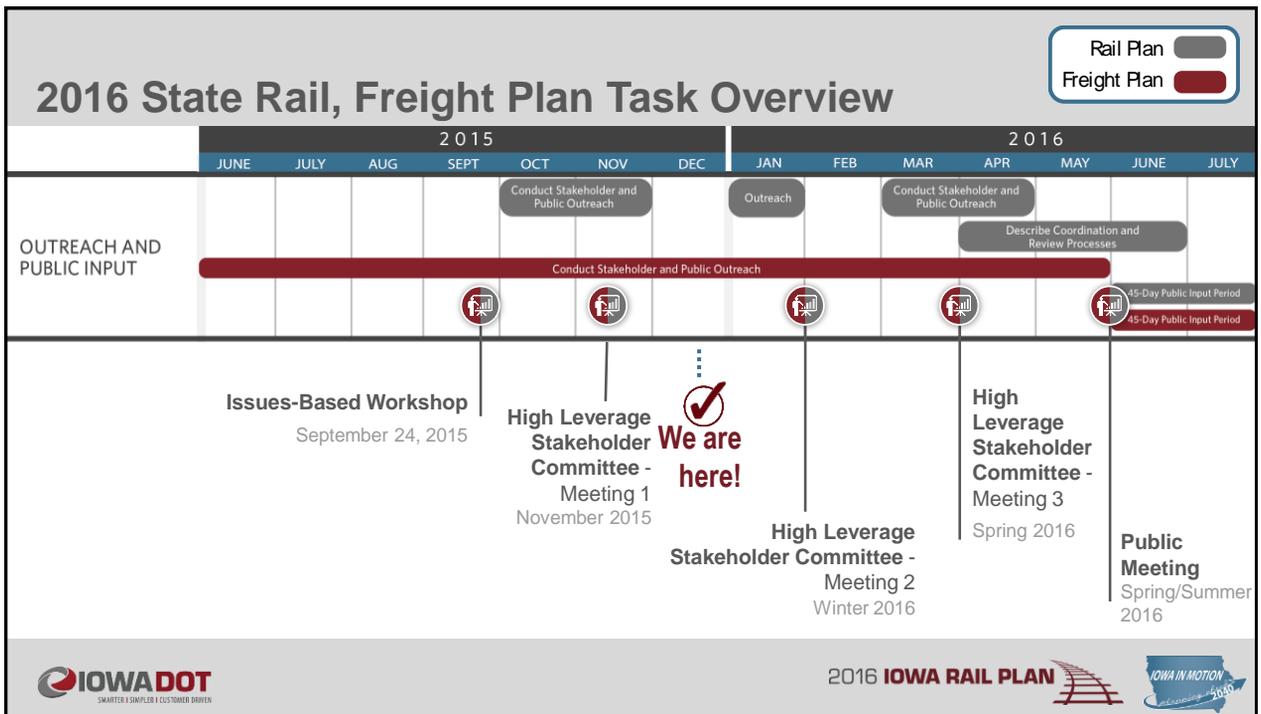
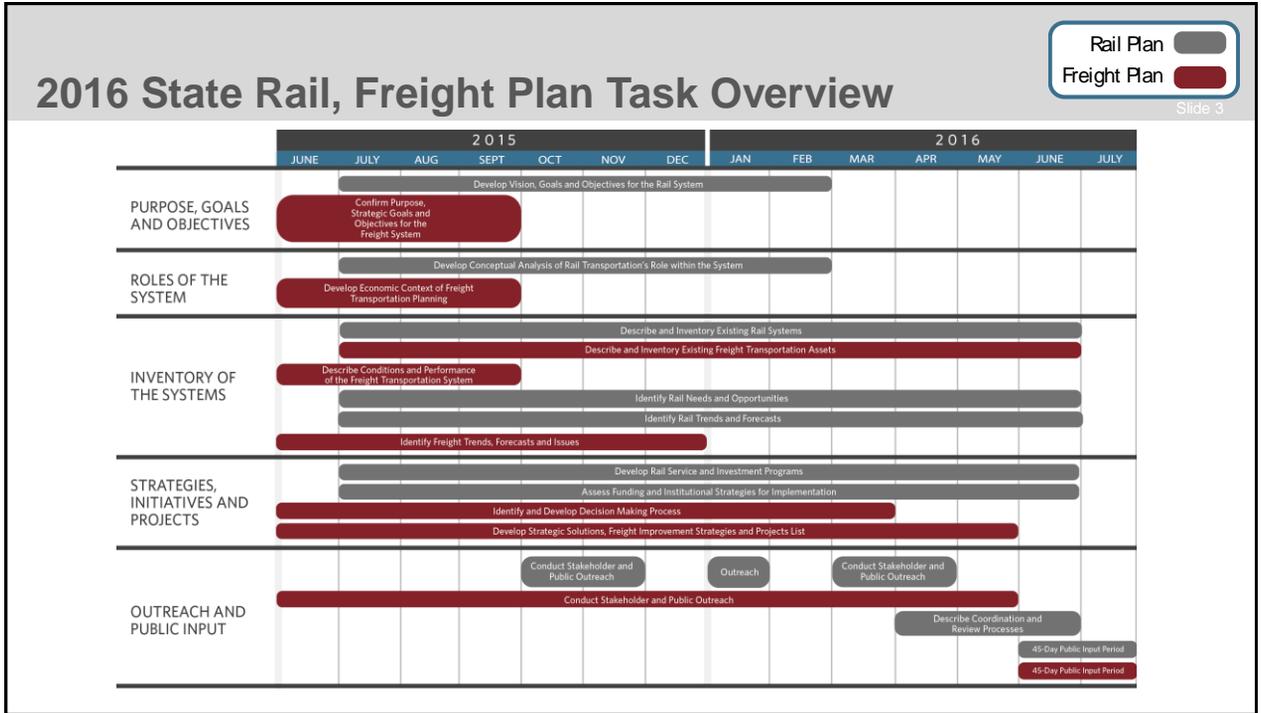
December 1, 2015



Background

State Rail Plan





2016 State Rail Plan Overview



Draft Goals of the State Rail Plan



Enhance the safety and security of the rail system



Maintain the rail infrastructure



Provide access and connectivity



Improve efficiency



Ensure economic competitiveness and development



Sustain the environment



Stakeholder Participation



STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Rail Plan – SWOT Analysis

Strengths

1. Private ownership and funding
2. Efficiency driven
3. The need to move large quantities of bulk freight
4. Class 2 and 3 railroad connection to community
5. Connection of modes

Weaknesses

1. Bottlenecks associated with yard capacity
2. No major intermodal hub
3. Too many grade crossings
4. High volume of pass through traffic
5. Availability of railcars – for lease or purchase

Opportunities

1. Expand transload and intermodal load facilities
2. Additional state funding for railroads
3. Economic development
4. Railroad capacity expansion
5. Congestion reduction on highway system

Threats

1. Aging infrastructure
2. Truck size and weight – 33' trailers specifically
3. Uncertainty
4. Uncertainty renewal of 45G rail tax credit
5. Regulatory issues – Positive Train Control (PTC)



Rail Plan – Issues Areas

Passenger Rail	Safety and Security of Freight Operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of dedicated line • Competing modes and costs of modes • Lack of demand • Need appeal, incentive • Creates jobs, develops economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good compared to other states • Cities lack enough information, resources on hazmat derailments • Need additional training, education • Additional funding
Economic and Workforce Development	Multimodal Freight Networks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation is key • Efficiency • Workforce development • Additional funding • Aging infrastructure • Connections to rural communities • Worker availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalization • Aging infrastructure • Need greater connectivity • Selective rail investments • New industry trends driven by Panama Canal expansion • Not enough vehicle/container capacity to move freight • Intermodal/multimodal transportation facilities (to transfer goods mode to mode) • Lack of enough access points • Transit time of railroads
Multimodal Freight Link and Connectors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underutilized transloads • Improved rail car availability and capacity • Global access • Improved efficiency and standardization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service issue with capacity • Corridor development • Economic development opportunities



Public Survey

- » The State Rail Plan and State Freight Plan survey was available online from October 23, 2015 to November 11, 2015.
- » Outreach included email, LinkedIn, blog and Yammer.
- » 227 people responded to the survey.
- » Economic Workforce and Development and Safety and Security were two highest selected categories.
- » Note that these items are just summaries of initial survey results and does not reflect an exhaustive list.
- » Responses included:
 - » The overall transportation system is moderately efficient in Iowa.
 - » The transportation modes are competitive in Iowa.
 - » Infrastructure is the top hurdle that may block economic development in Iowa.
 - » Funding should be targeted at increasing access and the number of intermodal/transloading facilities.



Responses (cont.)

- » Responses included:
 - » Iowa DOT should develop, facilitate and fund freight, marine and rail improvements.
 - » Intermodal access is not sufficient and additional locations/lanes are required.
 - » There is not enough information for companies to assess the cost and benefits of intermodal/transloading facilities. The Iowa DOT should both target increasing access/number of those facilities and target logistic parks to encourage transport growth.
 - » Respondents are likely to use passenger rail for business and leisure.
 - » Passenger rail should be coordinated with other multi-modal transportation options, completely integrated into every transportation option and connect with other cities.
 - » Vehicular accidents is the highest safety concern for highways.
 - » Infrastructure improvements would increase safety in communities but would have a neutral effect on the quality of life.



Select Shipper Interviews

- » Twelve shipper interviews were completed between October and November of 2015. These interviews included large manufacturers, rural agriculture producers, retailers and Third Party Logistics providers.
- » Shippers interviewed used Class 1 and Short Line railroads, a trucking company and logistics service providers were asked about 9 aspects of freight service and perceptions. The nine areas included 3-5 questions each, for a total of 39 inquiries.
- » Summary:
 - » The vast majority of freight in Iowa moves by truck, infrastructure is rated at a B-C level on an A-F scale.
 - » Performance measures are highly correlated with cost and on-time performance.
 - » Communication in Iowa could be improved with the development of push emails or APPs and more customized for users.
 - » Several users indicated the importance of empty equipment visibility to help reduce repositioning costs and improve equipment availability.
 - » Multimodal access is absolutely essential to the freight network.
 - » Priority projects include maintaining the current highway/bridge network and improving rail and freight routes.
 - » Increased terminal access and an increase in truck parking was a common theme, concern over grade crossing safety was noted in some areas.
 - » Cost benefit analysis and public private partnership development seemed to be the best way to prioritize projects.
 - » Concern over driver shortages, industry regulation and overall transportation funding levels were mentioned.





<http://engagefreightrailplans.iowadot.gov/>



Email us

info@EngageFreightRailPlans.com

Stay
Involved

Public and Online Meetings

- Solicit public input about rail and freight issues.
- Identify opportunities for freight and passenger rail.
- Educate the public about:
 - the purpose of the State Rail and State Freight Plans.
 - vision and goals.
- Online meeting

Thank You

